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Applicants

: Tatsuya YANO et al.

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: Irene Marx

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Dorothy Defrancesco

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

## SIR:

This is a response to the Office Action of December 15, 2003, which is a Restriction Requirement under 35 USC 121. The term for responding to the Office Action ends on January 15, 2004.

## REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge applicants' claim for priority under 35 USC 119 and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document that was filed on March 1, 2002.